\B	6 2006	uction Act of 1995.	no persons	U. s are required to respond to a	S. Patent and			PTO/SB/21 (09-04) through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 J.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE displays a valid OMB control number.	
THI	DEMI			Application Number	09/579,6	30			
TRANSMITTAL			Filing Date 05/26/200		10				
FORM				First Named Inventor	Robert M	Robert McKinnon, Jr.			
			Art Unit	3727	3727				
(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)				Examiner Name	N. Elosh	Eloshway			
Total Number of Pages in This Submission 45				Attorney Docket Number	5925.360	5925.36003			
ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)									
				Orawing(s) Licensing-related Papers			After Allowance Communication to TC Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences		
Amendment/Reply After Final Affidavits/declaration(s) Extension of Time Request Express Abandonment Request Information Disclosure Statement			Remar		ce Address	Retu	Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Proprietary Information Status Letter Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below): Declaration of Robert McKinnnon, Jr. Return Post Card		
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT									
, imi Hame	Decker, Jones, McMackin, McClane, Hall-& Bates								
Signature	10.00								
Printed name	name Geoffrey A. Mantooth								
Date 02/13/2006			Reg. No. 32,042			2			
CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:									
Signature / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / /									
Typed or printed name Geoffrey A. Mant			ooth	oth			Date	02/13/2006	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

5925.36003

PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Patent Application Of

Robert McKinnon, Jr. : Serial No. 09/579,630 :

Group Art Unit: 3727

Examiner: N. Eloshway

Filing Date: May 26, 2000

"METER BOX LID"

REPLY TO EXAMINER'S ANSWER AND REQUEST FOR REOPENING PROSECUTION

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In the Examiner's Answer mailed December 12, 2005, a new ground of rejection was made. In light of the new ground of rejection, Applicant requests that prosecution be reopened and the appeal be withdrawn. This reply is in response to the new ground of rejection.

The **Claims** begin on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 27.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on <u>FEBRUARY 13, 2006</u>.

Geoffrey A. Mantooth, Reg. No. 32,042